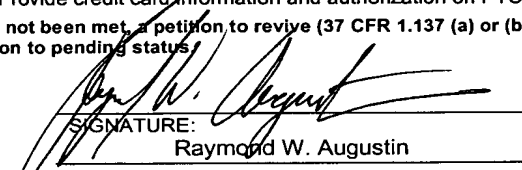


EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV627258041US  
DATE: June 20, 2005

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES<br/>DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)<br/>CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>   |   | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br>GFRED 3.3-006<br>U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.51)<br><span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">10/540116</span> |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br>PCT/GB2003/005615  | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE<br>22 December 2003 | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED<br>21 December 2002  |
| TITLE OF INVENTION LACES TYING DEVICE   |   |  |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Supen Taylor  |   |  |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:   |   |  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</li> <li>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)).           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).</li> <li>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)). (executed)</li> <li>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).</li> </ol> |   |  |
| <b>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</b>  |   |  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. w/SB-08, 4 references (1 encl.)</li> <li>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</li> <li>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</li> <li>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</li> <li>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825.</li> <li>18. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Four (4) Sheets of Formal Drawings, Return Receipt Postcard</li> </ol>   |   |  |

|   |  |   |            |   |                     |
|---|--|---|------------|---|---------------------|
| U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.51)<br><b>10/540116</b>  |  | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br>PCT/GB2003/005615                            |            | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br>GFRED 3.3-006 |                     |
| The following fees have been submitted  |  |   |            | <b>CALCULATIONS</b>                       | <b>PTO USE ONLY</b> |
| 21.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee | \$300   |            | \$ 300.00                                 |                     |
| 22.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee    |   |            |   |                     |
| If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4).....   |  |   |            |   |                     |
| All other situations .....  |  |   |            | \$ 200.00                                 |                     |
| 23.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee         |   |            |   |                     |
| Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority .....   |  |   |            |   |                     |
| International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office .....   |  |   |            | \$ 400.00                                 |                     |
| All other situations .....  |  |   |            | \$ 900.00                                 |                     |
| <b>TOTAL OF 21, 22 and 23 =</b>   |  |   |            |   |                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.  |  |   |            |   |                     |
| Total Sheets  | Extra sheets   | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number) | RATE       |   |                     |
| 14 - 100 =  | /50 =  |   | x \$250.00 |   |                     |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).   |  |   |            | \$  |                     |
| CLAIMS  | NUMBER FILED   | NUMBER EXTRA  | RATE       |   |                     |
| Total claims  | 20 - 20 =  |   | x          | \$  |                     |
| Independent claims  | 1 - 3 =  |   | x          | \$ 0.00                                   |                     |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(s) (if applicable)   |  |   |            | \$  |                     |
| <b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>  |  |   |            | \$ 900.00                                 |                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.   |  |   |            | \$ 450.00                                 |                     |
| <b>SUBTOTAL =</b>   |  |   |            | \$ 450.00                                 |                     |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).  |  |   |            | \$  |                     |
| <b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>   |  |   |            | \$ 450.00                                 |                     |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21 (h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property   |  |   |            | \$  |                     |
| <b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>  |  |   |            | \$  |                     |
|   |  |   |            | Amount to be refunded:                    | \$                  |
|   |  |   |            | Amount to be charged:                     | \$                  |
| <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>12-1095</u> in the amount of \$ <u>450.00</u> to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>12-1095</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. <b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. <b>Credit card information should not be included on this form.</b> Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p> <p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.</p> <p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <br/>             SIGNATURE: _____<br/>             NAME: Raymond W. Augustin           </p> <p>CUSTOMER NUMBER: 000530</p> <p style="text-align: right;">28,588<br/>REGISTRATION NUMBER</p> |  |   |            |   |                     |